



March 7th, 2019
House Federal and State Affairs Committee
Proponent Testimony for SCR 1606

First, I want to start by saying we should have compassion for any woman who has had an abortion. We don't know what she has been through, what kind of pressure she was under, the level of coercion she experienced, or what false information was given to her.

But it is time to be honest and clear – the New York abortion law is clearly harmful towards women and children in a way that also affects our humanity and how we view ourselves as human beings.

It is harmful to women because a woman has a right to be protected from those who would use and abuse her, especially when she is carrying her unborn child. We know from historical events that a woman is extremely vulnerable when she is pregnant, and New York should recognize this fact and ensure protection for her and her child in their laws.

Tragically, to protect the violent act of abortion and the providers who commit the act, the New York law eliminated criminal penalties for savage actions that end a child's life in the mother's womb. Already, a New York prosecutor dropped an abortion charge against a man who the police say fatally stabbed his girlfriend and ended the life of her child. This lack of protection will incite future violence towards pregnant women.

It is harmful to children because, as pro-life advocates have said for years, any argument for legal abortion can be used as an argument for legal infanticide, and abortion advocates in New York have now publicly demonstrated that point very well and are not ashamed of it.

Late-term abortion is indistinguishable from infanticide, and not only was there no hesitation in accepting this killing of innocent human life in the passage of this law, there was an actual celebration. Celebrating violence towards innocent human beings.

This is where the abortion mentality leads us.

This is not just an individual choice - it affects society and how we view each other. When we permit individuals to say that some lives are not worthy of living, that can be killed, what does that say about us? What does that say about our life?

A new poll by the non-partisan firm YouGov found that an overwhelming majority of Americans reject abortion late in pregnancy. That is, 79 percent reject all abortion in the last three months of pregnancy, 80 percent oppose abortion the day before a child would have been born, and 82 percent reject denying medical care to viable infants.

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This a child we can see, a child we can hear, a child we can hold, that we can touch, that we can love.

This is a child who can feel pain. And this is a child who can feel love, as scientific evidence has shown that a child suffers severe attachment disorders when not given love at the beginning of their lives. Killing that living child by leaving them to die is depravity.

Abortion is violence, by the powerful against the weak and innocent. When the New York governor tries to excuse himself with a so-called “health” exception, he should know that exception can be used for any reason, including financial health or emotional health. With physical health, science informs us that killing a full-term child inside or outside the womb is never necessary. Humane alternatives are readily available, as numerous physicians will testify.

In fact, a 2013 Guttmacher study – a supporter of Planned Parenthood – says “data suggest that most women seeking later termination are not doing so for reasons of fetal anomaly or life endangerment.”

According to the latest data, there are about 1,671 abortion providers in the United States. Of those, 20 percent commit abortions after 20 weeks. That equates to more than 330 abortion providers nationwide who are willing to kill viable unborn children. According to the Centers for Disease Control, in 2015, approximately 8,296 abortions were committed at and after 21 weeks gestation (using Guttmacher’s latest 2014 abortion numbers, that figure could be around 12,000). Late-term abortion is definitely not rare.

Women do not need late-term abortion. Instead, they need support and encouragement to allow them to parent their child in the best way possible.

If our society does not recognize human life as having intrinsic value in our laws, human life is treated like property. It is an either/or choice. Human life with intrinsic value to be cherished and treated with dignity, or property to be killed, bought or sold.

Even if you are personally opposed to abortion, but do not vote against it, you are still taking the position that human life can be treated as property -- that it is an individual choice of how one wants to treat that property. This is the abortion mindset that gives us infanticide, human beings to be destroyed by choice. Where is the limit to this choice? How much further will it go?

Government giving a so-called “right” to a dead child is a brutal exercise of raw power over a human life. It is an appalling violation of justice. And clearly it is an abuse of civil rights, with New York now steeped in depravity because of this law.

Martin Luther King said, “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.” Infanticide used to be unthinkable. But abortion advocates have made it debatable and are now saying it is justifiable. If our society refuses to recognize that human life is sacred, our moral worth is dependent on those in power, and each human life is at risk.

Some have asked why? Why this resolution sending a message to New York about legislation in their state? Because this is a civil rights issue for the child, who cannot speak. When extreme injustice is inflicted on innocent living human beings, even killing those human beings by leaving them to die, it is incumbent upon Kansas leaders to speak out for those who cannot speak for themselves.

Why are we sending this message to New York? Because we want to let our Kansas Supreme Court know that we would find this abortion mentality in our state as depravity and totally unacceptable.

This resolution is about protecting human life, reinstating protections for women and their unborn children, ascribing inherent value to all human life and rejecting any legislation that would incite abuse and violence towards women and their unborn children.

We urge New York to reconsider their recent actions and repeal the legislation for the good of humanity.

Respectfully,
Kansas Truth Caucus